

How he Outwitted the Nation's Master-minds of crime

friendly America, declare herself to be prepared to discuss with the United States and to work together with her to make impossible the destruction of American lives.

"Germany shall declare herself ready to make the strongest efforts to reach this goal, but to expect that America will work with her in this respect. The President is of the opinion that Americans who take passage on a munitions ship 'take their lives into their own hands.' The President seems to expect that we ourselves shall set forth an agreement in the matter, possibly leaving out the principles and fall back upon the above mentioned mutual endeavors."

It is evident that Albert gave this report long consideration. It must have amazed him, as it amazed others. That Albert found it hard to accept is shown in his personal comments added to the report. He says:

"The foregoing information sounds almost unbelievable. If it is correct the President has not understood the German note at all, and on the other hand does not know what he says in his note. The diplomatic expressions and the meaning of a 'deliberately unfriendly act' do not seem to be clear to him."

"M. P. again emphasized how very much the President was upset and disturbed about the matter, how much he wishes to come out of the matter, how he emphasized that the note to England had been ready when the Lusitania case came up and how he held out to M. P. that if he could clear up this matter, how very much obliged to him he would be."

"If the plan is to be carried through he promises beforehand telegraphic connections with Germany."

It must be understood that, despite the appearances of some of the work Albert was doing, we were restricted to investigations and never reached a point where we could charge this industrious propagandist with compromising American neutrality or violating any American law. He was here as the commercial representative of the Kaiser; to keep Berlin informed of the industrial activities of the United States; to do what he could to wean American industries away from English contracts and to disseminate stories warranted to promote a more cordial sentiment toward Germany.

Playing on Both Sides, As This Incident Shows

But, while he was crying aloud that Great Britain was violating international law and insulting America by not permitting America, a neutral, to ship her goods to whichever nation she willed, Albert was denying the right of American business men to ship their products to Russia. Albert was no more consistent than Bernstorff.

For instance, the Orenstein-Arthur Koppel Co., 30 Church street, New York, had a perfectly legitimate and desirably profitable contract to sell a large quantity of portable railway track to the Russian Government. This corporation, not desiring to work in any mysterious way or in any way stoop to questionable practices, wrote from its factory at Koppel, Pa., to the German Consul in Philadelphia, Dr. Stobbe, asking whether Germany would interfere with the ship they sent with the materials to Russia.

Stobbe appealed to Albert. Albert looked up the law. There was a great deal to do about it. Albert knew that his course would be watched, inasmuch as he had raised such bitter outcries against England's embargo on goods destined from America to the Central Powers. If Albert announced that Germany would interfere with America's shipments to allied Governments his future arguments about the freedom of the seas would lack conviction and sincerity.

Lawyers for Orenstein-Arthur Koppel communicated with Bernstorff. Bernstorff replied that he could see no violation of any German law in that firm's "acceptance of the order." The Ambassador let it go at that. He said nothing about the probable action of German warships were the ship bearing the valuable railroad material to be intercepted, as it doubtless would be.

Besides, Germany needed such materials. The Orenstein-Arthur Koppel Company could ship the stuff, having been paid at the docks on this side of the Atlantic, and with all propriety and upholding of business ethics go about its business on other contracts. Certainly nobody could expect the corporation to guard the shipment once it was on the high seas. Whole navies could not guarantee safety on the water in those days.

Bernstorff communicated his thoughts to Albert and Albert, having added a few suggestions and an outline for a reply to Orenstein-Arthur Koppel, passed them on to Stobbe. And Stobbe, guided by Albert's outline, notified Orenstein-Arthur Koppel not to make the shipment.

Dr. Albert the Scapegoat.

While Bernstorff Kept Clear

Thereupon the German Ambassador was ready to show the American Government that he, representative of Wilhelm Hohenzollern, that august democrat, was large enough to give his permission to American firms to sell and ship to allied Powers despite the fact that England declined to permit the starving women and babies of the Fatherland to receive bread from the United States. Was not the shame of England great?

But as usual the well known buck had been passed to poor old Albert. It was up to him to amend the Ambassador's magnificent permission. Bernstorff was a gesture. Albert stood behind him, knocking on the head unsuspecting wayfarers whom Bernstorff waved past with a flourish of his hand. That left Bernstorff's record clean. But the incident took much of the steam out of Albert's bellowings against England's arbitrary and peremptory sea rulings.

Albert and his associate, Waetzoldt, in



"One of the most remarkable characteristics of this rather remarkable man was his uncanny ability to remember to-day the intricate details of an untruth he told you two weeks ago. There were times that he lied, knowing that you knew he lied, but knowing also that you couldn't prove it. Even three or four weeks later he would repeat that untruth in detail, leaving you more or less baffled."

observing the progress of American industry in 1915 and 1916, were constantly suggesting to the German Chancellor, Von Bethmann-Hollweg, methods of bringing America to time. One of these suggestions had to do with the protests of American importers of German and Austrian goods against the British Order in Council. I quote it from one of the Albert-Waetzoldt letters to Von Bethmann-Hollweg:

"From a German standpoint, the pressure upon the American Government can be strengthened by the interruption of deliveries from Germany even if the British Government should permit exceptions. Those shipments especially should be interrupted which the American industries so badly require; especially chemicals and dyestuffs, as also goods which are used in the realm of the fine arts. The withholding of goods is the surest means of occasioning the placing before the Administration in Washington (the welfare) of American interests."

"Those protests have the most weight which come from American industries which employ many workmen. The complaint of one of the great American dye factories which declared that the continuing of withholding of dyestuffs would make necessary the dismissal of 4,000 workmen has done more than the protest of the importers."

Despite Albert's gloomy warnings and prophecies, he clung desperately to hope that Germany would come out victorious and in some way avoid direct conflict with the United States. He and Waetzoldt collaborated in a bit of significant speculation in futures in one of their reports to Von Bethmann-Hollweg.

This report is dated June 3, 1915. I quote a paragraph or two:

"Right now," it reads, "the German industry should begin to reflect on the position it will take toward the plan of transferring German industries to the United States to a greater extent than has been done already—when the time arrives. . . . May the German industries then make their decision for the true interests of the Fatherland and not alone for profit. . . . If the decision is again brought home to German industry let it not be forgotten what position the United States took with reference to Germany in this war."

Utterly different in tone were the private letters Albert received from Berlin. A typical one is that written by his friend Trautmann, then attached to the Foreign Office. It is dated April 23 and the final paragraph notes that "as the courier leaves for America, on May 6, I am hurrying my letter." Evidently he wrote from day to day, starting April 23.

His Private Letters Showed

A Far Different Tone

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In part this letter reads:

"How differently we anticipated the present time, one and a half years ago. You had half way promised me to take me with you as a youngster to San Francisco. I had dreamed of it as so pleasant, to be active with you over there, as a small representative of the mightiest industrial power."

"To see again and to exchange thought with my brother who was to come from South America was already included in the program. Now America celebrates her World's Exposition under existing circumstances alone, hardly noticed, while we are fighting the mightiest war that any people ever heard of."

"My brother is a staff physician at the western front, after having spent three months in an English prison. He was taken, like so many others, from his Dutch ship in the canal. As my brother also, in accordance with his South American activities, is particularly interested in economical questions, so I agree with him in his lofty thoughts regarding the prisoners which we hold in enemy country, from whom I am also, in part, a reporter here."

"You know that behind the lines, not only in Belgium but also in northern France, we have had the harvest gathered, threshed and shipped to Germany. Sugar beets were pulled out and part of them used as fodder and part used for making alcohol. Now our gray fields are busy with cultivation. Steam plows have been sent over and in Belgium as well as in the French provinces which we have captured the fields are all being tilled. In order to bring us the necessary bread in case of a long continued war. In Belgium itself we have endeavored to start the industries again in part, especially the important coal mines."

"The trenches are in part lighted with electric light; water pumps are driven by electricity, etc. In Lille hundreds of French women are sitting, who daily sew thousands of sandbags for the protection of our trenches. French workmen of the iron industry make steel plates for the same purposes. So to-day Belgian and French people are making war materials for use against their own countrymen, and they are even happy to find work and to earn money."

"It is too bad that the really great German officials are so little moved by these

great times. I hardly believe in any great change in the system, which in itself is really good, but only not great and strong enough. At the earliest, in my opinion, there is to be expected a crisis in the Foreign Office, and especially in our diplomatic corps."

"If we had had men like you, honorable sir, in the field, probably a great many faults would not have been committed or a great many possibilities tied up which we are to-day compelled to forego. His Excellency, Mr. Simms, of the Foreign Office, told me a short time ago that it was strange that the 28 per cent. of German-American blood in America had no political power, for he who does not work can expect no return. The quotation in its broad sense is, in my opinion, pertinent."

"We have labored altogether too little politically, and for that reason never won success. Your praise of English efficiency and farseeing development of their power I am regretfully compelled to join in. We have never had a political representation which knew success. Our commercial interests, on the other hand, knew but one goal, to earn without working with the officials."

"There was lacking, between our merchants and officialdom, a lasting exchange of blood. You, from a banker's family and I as a lawyer's son, are singular examples in the higher German officialdom. Whether it will be different in the future I do not know. Furthermore, we have not had any special success with those persons who have come from commercial life into high diplomatic places."

"As opposed to the last statement, there comes to my mind how the merchant in the raw material division of the War Ministry is making himself very useful as an official, and, before every one, the present chief of the raw material division, Dr. Walter Rathenau. He has now left with the Iron Cross on a white ribbon, overworked and perhaps also disgusted. Had Rathenau not gone to the War Minister on the 4th of August and pointed out the necessity for conserving the whole supply of raw materials, I do not know how we would exist to-day."

"With inexhaustible energy and a sort of Jewish regardlessness, Rathenau immediately looked after the sequestration of all raw war materials, without worrying about the difficulties which resulted to the whole industrial organization on account thereof."

"We do not to-day have a shortage of work, but, regrettably, a shortage of workmen. If an industry dies, it means the freeing of necessary workmen for the munition producing industries and the supplanting of able-bodied workmen with older ones, through which other new soldiers for the front are made available."

"I do not believe that shortage of foodstuffs or shortage of raw material will force us to make peace, if we only conserve the necessary nerve in critical moments. We have taken from France and are occupying the most important of her coal lands and its important export industry."

"I should like to wager that in the end the industrial needs in France will be greater than with us. England has up to this time thoroughly understood how to keep up France's power of resistance and her chauvinism. One of these days, however, France will see that the flower of her manhood, the largest part of her wealth, and, besides, the northern coast of her territory, are lost, the last permanently occupied by England and the first two offered up for England."

"Even Russia must understand that she cannot win much by this war. Constantinople is the only goal worth the effort. England will hardly be willing that Russia should occupy this place, or to place her in possession thereof. But even England herself is losing more in this war than she can possibly win."

"She has already lost to-day the firm belief of the world in her mastery of the seas. The money market of the world has been taken from London to New York, and will hardly come back to London. In East Asia Japan has succeeded in an up-to-date undreamed of extension of her power, which England will finally have to curb because of its relation to Australia."

Predicts American Power And the Rise of Japan

"The whole war will end in Europe losing her domination of the world. America will be infinitely enriched and will become world banker at 7, 8 and even 10 per cent. interest. Japan will become mistress of Eastern Asia and Europe will be poorer by three hundred billions. This mighty change in the whole world will, in my opinion, first show itself in its sharpest form when we again have peace. The European people will have to make further preparations, for that this war, which must remain more or less undecided, will not be the last which we will have to fight is something of which every one here is convinced."

"Aside from these expensive preparations, the terrible expenses of the war will have to be liquidated and interest paid thereon. If we take Helfferich's figures that the entire wealth of Germany, aside

from the land, amounts to 250,000,000,000 marks, then we would load this with a mortgage of some 50,000,000,000 marks on account of the war, assuming that no war indemnity will be paid in the end."

"The payment of interest on and the sinking (amortization) of 50,000,000,000, however, means a yearly expenditure of a round three billions, that is to say, we would have to raise by new taxes the defense contribution divided among three years, each single year three times as high."

"You will ask me how I arrive at 50,000,000,000. The process is easy: The war to the end of this year will cost a round twenty billions, a round twenty billions will have to be raised as funds for the care of the sick and wounded, and a round ten billions for new equipment for our army."

"These conditions will at the end of the war also be found in all the warring nations. That, however, means bankruptcy for nearly all Europe. Upon these ruins a wisely led North America can build up a political economy which, in my opinion, must make it an economically leading nation. Practically I believe above all that America will never, as in this war, be capable of occupying an independent position."

"Before me lies the visiting card of an earlier couleur-brother (member of same student association) whom we have been compelled to put out because of an embezzlement (?). The young man in his time came to America as a steerage passenger on the Schub, there had the customary career, from messenger to boot-black, and came to me a short time ago with the request that I help him to have his imprisonment changed into deportation."

"While he was not a soldier, he came to Germany under the false assertion of being an American reporter, and here became a soldier, and as a result of serious lung trouble was released as being temporarily unfit for duty. He took advantage of the opportunity to make up with his relatives again; he is the son of a judge in Halberstadt, and is, as I believe, now become a sensible and trustworthy fellow in case you should be able to use him some place."

"I believe that, in spite of his past transgressions, I would be able to recommend him. His name is Hans Erich Benedix and he is an editor in the foreign division of the New York Staats-Zeitung."

Camera Maps

It is said that among the most accurate of maps are those made with the camera. Engineers in the Government employ have, it is reported, completed a survey from which maps have been made of several thousand square miles in Alaska. More than thirty thousand square miles on the boundary line between the United States and Canada have also been mapped with the camera.

With the rapid development of the airplane and the dirigible balloon in European countries came corresponding development of aerial photography for military purposes and a new awakening to the real value of aerial photography for surveys other than those of a military character. French engineers have indorsed the aerial methods of photographic surveying as both rapid and economical.

An apt illustration of this fact is found in the survey and resulting map of Prince William Sound, Alaska. Here the mountains rise from two thousand to ten thousand feet above the water's edge. Two cameras placed in a forty foot motor boat were used by Government engineers in making a survey of 2,000 square miles of territory. The boat was run 220 miles and 220 pairs of pictures were taken during the cruise, which lasted fifty-eight hours. From these pictures an accurate map of the region has been made. To have made the survey and map under former methods would have required months of difficult and expensive travel on the part of the engineers.

It is not commonly realized that a photograph of a plane surface taken with a plate camera directed perpendicularly toward that plane is a map of the area which the photograph embraces. In other words, it is possible to use the camera to produce charts, in the form of negatives, of level ground, provided the camera can be placed in a position directly above the ground. Here the camera will merely be doing on a small scale what is done on a much larger scale in map reduction by photography.

Engineers use the panoramic camera in making surveys of mountainous regions and for aerial flying positions. The camera is set up on the side of the mountain, overlooking a considerable section of surrounding country, possibly several square miles in total area. The maps are made from the panoramic photographs. It having been decided at what altitude the photos were taken, it is comparatively an easy matter to determine the altitude of various points in the pictures.

The panoramic camera consists of a box made of aluminum, inclosed in a protecting frame of mahogany, and this is lined with felt. The top of the box is the reference plane for leveling, and the vertical axis carrying the lens is placed perpendicularly to this plane. The circular film guides are adjusted so that when the film is in position for exposure all elements will be perpendicular to the level plane and hence parallel to the lens shaft.

The panoramic camera used in making maps is of two types, one employing a five inch film cartridge and the other a six inch cartridge. Two films are carried in each machine, and after one has been "shot" the camera is swung around and the other film exposed. The camera is held in a perfectly level position by means of wire guys.

That the camera presents an accurate means of making maps is well illustrated by the fact that in the recent Alaskan surveys, Government experts discovered by checking up their cumulative error in vertical angulation, that the error amounted to but twenty-five feet in one hundred miles. In a late survey the error in 250 miles was but sixty feet, and as this was stretched over some one hundred stations the average error was less than one foot for each station.

Next week Chief Flynn will tell readers of The New York Herald Magazine about one of the cleverest counterfeiters he ever knew, a man whose ability to master details all but baffled the Secret Service.